



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
USS PAUL F. FOSTER (DD-964)  
FPO AP 96665-1202

5757  
00  
22 Oct 99

*Rev'd 11/16/99  
W/o disk*

From: Commanding Officer, USS PAUL F. FOSTER (DD 964)  
To: Director, Naval Historical Center (SH)

Subj: 1998 COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) 1998 Command History

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.

  
T. J. STREI, JR.

## BASIC HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

### 1. COMMAND ORGANIZATION.

- A. USS PAUL F. FOSTER (DD 964) was assigned to Destroyer Squadron NINE commanded by Captain J. Meyer, USN.
- B. Commanding Officer, Commander T. J. Strei, JR., USN, relieved Commander T. S. Abernethy, USN, on 06 November, 1998.
- C. Executive Officer, Lieutenant Commander L. D. Gil, JR., USN.
- D. On 31 December 1998, the following Department Heads were assigned:

OFFICER		BILLET
LT	(b) (6)	Operations Officer
LT		Combat Systems Officer
LT		Engineer Officer
LT	(b) (6)	Supply Officer
LTJG		Navigator

2. SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS. USS PAUL F. FOSTER's crew began 1998 enjoying the last few days of the holiday leave and upkeep period in preparation for the Inter-Deployment Training Cycle(IDTC). During the winter, PAUL F. FOSTER began its cycle with CART II, and completed it with FEP on 31 July. PAUL F. FOSTER was the first ship in the squadron to complete its Inter-Deployment Training Cycle.

On 9 June, the ship completed its Engineering Certification, with major areas evaluated as "Effective", more commonly known as a clean sweep. On 14 July, USS FIFE (DD 991), USS RODNEY M. DAVIS (FFG 60) and USS PAUL F. FOSTER got underway for a week long Group Sail Exercise. The three ships steamed up to Nanoose Range, British Columbia, Canada for an undersea warfare exercise involving the firing of recoverable exercise torpedoes(rextorp) and exercise torpedoes(extorp). The ships also conducted leapfrogs and several connected replenishments. The entire week was a success and crews of each ship spent the weekend enjoying liberty in Victoria, BC.

The entire month of August was spent in an availability. During this time, the ship received extensive repairs to her firemain system. The change out of 1A GTM, the ship's last remaining original power turbine, was conducted flawlessly. On 21 September, the ship was underway again, this time she was bound for San Francisco, CA, port visit from 24th-28th. On the transit south, a series of training evolutions were conducted including the launching of chaff, deploying TACTAS and deck landing qualifications for HSL 43, BattleCats. The crew enjoyed their

Encl (1)

liberty while in San Francisco and on 28 September the ship set sail for the Nanoose Range, once again. The transit north was filled with unit level training, ensuring that the PAUL F. FOSTER remained combat ready. The ship arrived on the range on 30 September and began a series of undersea warfare exercises that were conducted until 2 October, when the ship returned to Everett, WA. The ship had another opportunity to fire rextorps and extorps.

USS PAUL F. FOSTER was underway on 6 October. This underway time was devoted to a series of acoustic tests that were conducted at Dabob Bay, WA. The test consisted of an underwater acoustic array recording data as the ship operated at various speeds using a variety of engineering configurations. Once the data was compiled and presented, the Quiet Ship Bill was updated to reflect the quietest configuration. The ship returned home on 9 October and began final preparations for the upcoming Change of Command and INSURV Inspection. On 16 October RADM Center, COMNAVSURFGRU PACNORWEST, received the pre-INSURV briefing onboard. The rest of the week was filled with Middle East Force Exercises (MEFEX) 99-1 Phase I work-ups. The crew received informative briefing on operations in the FIFTH Fleet Area of Responsibility, United Nations Sanctions, Visit, Board, Search and Seizures (VBSS) and Rules of Engagement.

On 2 November, CDR Strei reported aboard and began his one-week turnover with CDR Abernethy. On 3 November, the ship was underway to demonstrate its seaworthiness and maneuverability for the prospective CO. The turnover period was concluded on Friday, 6 November, during the Change of Command Ceremony. RADM Center was the guest speaker for this momentous occasion; and a beautiful reception followed. The following week the ship was underway conducting its pre-INSURV trial run. The week was very helpful and prepared PAUL F. FOSTER for the demanding pace it would see during the following week's INSURV. On 16 November, seventy officers, chiefs and technical representatives embarked for the weeklong inspection, which include the Underway Material Inspection. The crew rose to the task at hand, successfully completing the inspection and receiving the outbrief on Friday morning. An availability period followed INSURV, but the crew enjoyed their Thanksgiving break.

On 2 December, the ship was underway for Naval Weapons Station, Port Hadlock, WA and then on to the SOCAL Oparea for MEFEX 99-1 Phase II. After receiving needed weaponry, USS PAUL F. FOSTER, with DESRON 9 embarked, rendezvoused with the USS RODNEY M. DAVIS (FFG 60) and preceded to steam south. Upon arrival in SOCAL

Oparea, the third ship in the Surface Action Group(SAG), USS HEWITT (DD 968), joined the group for a week's worth of valuable training exercises. On 11 December, USS PAUL F. FOSTER participated in a MISSILEX, where she successfully fired and destroyed two targets using the NATO Sea Sparrow System. On 13 December, USS PAUL F. FOSTER conducted Naval Surface Fire Support(NSFS) FIREX-1 at San Clemente Range, unfortunately due to a power outage on the range, the event was unable to be completed as scheduled. After departing the range, the ship returned home on 17 December to start the beginning of the holiday and pre-overseas movement stand down, offering the crew some well deserved rest and relaxation time with their families through 10 January 1999.